

SUBLE DIA DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE (DIN). (U)

DLADIN 208-1A CAS OF: 1240 EDT 27 JUL 770

CUBA: ANNIVERSARY SPEECHMAKING HELD FEW SURPRISES. CU)

1. (U) PRESIDENT FIDEL CASTRO ADDRESSED OFFICIALS AND OTHER PEOPLE IN CAMAGUEY, SOME DO RM EAST OF HAVANA, ON THE 24TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ABORTIVE ATTACK ON AN ARMY BARRACKS I HAI BEGAN THE INSURGENCY LEADING TO HIS SETZURE OF POWER. ALTHOUGH HE HAD BEEN EXPECTED TO MAKE A MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT, NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE RE-

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PRESENCE, WHICH THE PRESIDENT SAID WOULD INCREASE BY 2.000 BY YEAR 'S END.

- 2. (U) THE BULK OF THE ADDRESS HIGHLIGHTED DOMESTIC ISSUES, INCLUDING THE ALLEGEDLY UNDIMINISHED ENTHUSIASM FOR THE REVOLUTION, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND SUGAR CANE PRODUCTION.
- 3. (U) REFERENCES TO OVERSEAS COMMITMENTS CAME MIDWAY
 IN THE SPEECH. COMMENTING THAT CUBANS STRUGGLED NOT ONLY
 FOR THEMSELVES, CASTRO ADDED, "THERE ARE 4,100 CUBAN
 CIVILIANS... IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD... AND BY THE
 END OF THE YEAR THERE WILL BE A BOUT 6,000." HE MENTIONED
 A PLANNED INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DOCTORS IN BOTH ANGOLA
 AND ET HIOPIA. AS HE HAD DONE IN AN INTERVIEW IN A
 BRAZILIAN MAGAZINE, THE CUBAN LEADER DID NOT SPEAK OF HIS
 OVERSEAS MILITARY DEPLOYMENTS.

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A DISCERNABLE TREND IN HAVANA'S PRONOUNCEMENTS

MAY BE DEVELOPING, WHICH SEEMS TO BE POINTING TO EMPHASIS

ON CIVIC-ACTION PROJECTS A BROAD AND IGNORING MILITARY

REALITIES. CASTRO DID NOT MENTION THE INCREASED MILITARY

COMMITMENT HE HAD RECENTLY MADE TO THE NETO GOVERNMENT IN

ANGOLA, FOR EXAMPLE. HE DID HOME IN ON A PROBLEM HIS

FOREIGN AID IS HAVING DOMESTICALLY, HOWEVER. CITING THE

INCREASED EXPORT OF MEDICAL AND ENGINEERING SPECIALISTS,

HE SAID THAT CUBANS MUST NOT BE AFRAID OF GRADUATING TOO

MANY DOCTORS AND ENGINEERS. THIS IS QUITE LIKELY THE

FIRST ADMISSION — ALBEIT INDIRECT — THAT A TECHNOLOGICAL

AND PROFESSIONAL DRAIN ON MANPOWER SKILLS MAY BE OCCURRING.

5. (8) ON BALANCE, THE MONCADA BARRACKS SPEECH SERVED
AS A FORUM FOR DOMESTIC ISSUES. GIVEN THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY,
SUCH EMPHASIS WOULD NOT BE UNEXPECTED. NONETHELESS, CUBAN
MOTIVES ARE SELDOM CAST SOLELY IN A DOMESTIC OR INTERNAL
FRAMEWORK, AND CASTRO MAY BE PLAYING DOWN INTERNATIONAL
THEMES FOR GOOD REASON. WHILE THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT
EITHER MOSCOW OR HAVANA HAVE RETREATED FROM THEIR BACKING

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i),(b)(3):10 USC 424

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OF NETO, CASTRO NONETHELESS COULD BE SETTING THE STAGE FOR MUTING HIS MILITARY SUPPORT TO THE POPULAR MOVEMENT GOVERNMENT. CASTING AN ANXIOUS GLANCE TOWARD JULY, 1979, WHEN CUBA HOSTS THE NONALIGNED CONFERENCE, CASTRO MAY HAVE LAID THE GROUNDWORK FOR LOWERING HIS MILITARY VISIBILITY IN ANGOLA.

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